AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ comprising:

a central cable receiving core ~~(3)~~ mounted between a pair of ~~disc like~~ end flanges ~~(5,7)~~, each ~~disc like~~ end flange ~~(5,7)~~ having a handle ~~(9,11)~~ mounted on ~~the~~an outermost surface of the end flange, the handles being radially offset from ~~the~~a central axis of the cable receiving core ~~(3)~~ and circumferentially offset relative to each other, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein each handle ~~(9, 11) further~~ comprises a substantially c-shaped grip portion ~~(12)~~ having a body portion ~~(13)~~ bridging a pair of inwardly depending arms ~~(15,17)~~, ~~the~~a free end of each of the arms ~~(15,17)~~ facing the end flange upon which ~~it~~ the handle is mounted, each ~~(9,11)~~ handle being rotatably mounted on it's respective flange.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A hand held~~ The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein each ~~of the handles (9,11)~~ handle further comprises a base portion ~~(21)~~, the base portion ~~(21)~~ being connected to the free ends of each of the arms of the grip portion ~~(12)~~ so that the grip portion ~~(12)~~ and the base portion ~~(21)~~ are arranged to form a loop for reception of at least one finger of an operator therethrough, the base portion ~~(21)~~ in turn being rotatably mounted on the end flange.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which~~wherein the base portion ~~(21)~~ and the grip portion ~~(12)~~ are arranged to form a closed loop,

the closed loop being substantially elliptical in shape.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which~~wherein the grip portion ~~(12)~~ is hingedly mounted on the base portion ~~(21)~~.

5. (Original) ~~A~~The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 4, ~~in which there is provided,~~ further comprising means ~~to~~for releasably ~~secure~~securing the grip portion ~~(12)~~ in a position relative the base portion ~~(21)~~.

6. (Original) ~~A~~The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 5, ~~in which~~wherein the means ~~to~~for releasably ~~secure~~securing the grip portion ~~(12)~~ in the position relative the base portion ~~(21)~~ comprises one of an over ~~centre~~center spring, a spring lock and a twist lock.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which~~wherein the grip portion ~~(12)~~ is releasably secured to the base portion ~~(21)~~.

8. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The ~~hand held~~ hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which there is provided~~ further comprising a gripping member ~~(301)~~ connected to the handle ~~(9,11)~~ to releasably secure the cable reel to a wire.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The ~~hand held~~ hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 8, ~~in which~~wherein the gripping member ~~(301)~~ ~~further~~ comprises a v-shaped hook ~~(303)~~ having a pair

of legs ~~(305,307)~~ connected to each other, one of the legs being connected to the handle.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The ~~hand held~~ hand-held cable reel ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which~~wherein the grip portion ~~(12)~~ is provided with a cut to allow through passage of a wire internal the loop formed by the grip portion ~~(12)~~ and the base portion ~~(21)~~, the grip portion ~~(12)~~ being so dimensioned to form an acute angle at ~~the~~a point of contact with the base portion ~~(21)~~ for reception of a piece of wire.

11.-39. (Cancelled).

40. (New) A hand-held cable reel comprising:

a central cable receiving core mounted between a pair of end flanges, each end flange having a handle mounted on an outermost surface of the end flange, the handles being radially offset from a central axis of the cable receiving core and circumferentially offset relative to each other,

wherein each handle comprises:

a substantially c-shaped grip portion having a body portion bridging a pair of inwardly depending arms, a free end of each of the arms facing the end flange upon which the handle is mounted, each handle being rotatably mounted on its respective flange, and

a base portion being connected to the free ends of each of the arms of the grip portion so that the grip portion and the base portion are arranged to form a loop for reception of at least one

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finger of an operator therethrough, the base portion in turn being rotatably mounted on the end flange.

41. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 40, wherein the base portion and the grip portion are arranged to form a closed loop, the closed loop being substantially elliptical in shape.

42. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 40, wherein the grip portion is hingedly mounted on the base portion.

43. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 42, further comprising means for releasbly securing the grip portion in a position relative the base portion.

44. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 43, wherein the means for releasably securing the grip portion in the position relative the base portion comprises one of an over center spring, a spring lock and a twist lock.

45. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 40, wherein the grip portion is releasably secured to the base portion.

46. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 40, further comprising a gripping member connected to the handle to releasably secure the cable reel to a wire.

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47. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 46, wherein the gripping member further comprises a v-shaped hook having a pair of legs connected to each other, one of the legs being connected to the handle.

48. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 40, wherein the grip portion is provided with a cut to allow through passage of a wire internal the loop formed by the grip portion and the base portion, the grip portion being so dimensioned to form an acute angle at the point of contact with the base portion for reception of a piece of wire.

49. (New) A hand-held cable reel comprising:

a central cable receiving core mounted between a pair of end flanges, each end flange having a handle mounted on an outermost surface of the end flange, the handles being radially offset from a central axis of the cable receiving core and circumferentially offset relative to each other,

wherein each handle comprises a substantially c-shaped grip portion having a body portion bridging a pair of inwardly depending arms, a free end of each of the arms facing the end flange upon which the handle is mounted, each handle being rotatably mounted on its respective flange and including a gripping member connected to the handle to releasably secure the cable reel to a wire.

50. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 49, wherein the gripping member

comprises a v-shaped hook having a pair of legs connected to each other, one of the legs being connected to the handle.

51. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 49, wherein each handle further comprises a base portion being connected to the free ends of each of the arms of the gtip portion so that the grip portion and the base portion are arranged to form a loop for reception of at least one finger of an operator therethrough, the base portion in turn being rotatably mounted on the end flange.

52. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 51, wherein the base portion and the grip portion are arranged to form a closed loop, the closed loop being substantially elliptical in shape.

53. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 51, wherein the grip portion is hingedly mounted on the base portion.

54. (New) A hand-held cable reel comprising:

a central cable receiving core mounted between a pair of end flanges, each end flange having a handle mounted on an outermost surface of the end flange, the handles being radially offset from a central axis of the cable receiving core and circumferentially offset relative to each other,

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wherein each handle comprises a substantially c-shaped grip portion having a body portion bridging a pair of inwardly depending arms, a free end of each of the arms facing the end flange upon which the handle is mounted, each handle being rotatably mounted on its respective flange, and

wherein the grip portion is provided with a cut to allow through passage of a wire internal the loop formed by the grip portion and the base portion, the grip portion being so dimensioned to form an acute angle at the point of contact with the base portion for reception of a piece of wire.

55. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 54, wherein the base portion and the grip portion are arranged to form a loop, the loop being substantially elliptical in shape.

56. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 54, wherein the grip portion is hingedly mounted on the base portion.

57. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 56, further comprising means for releasably securing the grip portion in a position relative the base portion.

58. (New) The hand-held cable reel as claimed in claim 54, wherein the grip portion is releasably secured to the base portion.

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